## **PATENT**



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Philip J. Haarstad et al.

Examiner: Gilbert, Samuel G.

Serial No.: 10/675,815

Group Art Unit: 3735

Filing Date: September 30, 2003

Docket No.: P0010855.01

Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS PROVIDING SUCTION-ASSISTED TISSUE

ENGAGEMENT THROUGH A MINIMALLY INVASIVE INCISION

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8: I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 351 day of December, 2007.

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## **AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

This is in response to the Office Action mailed September 7, 2007. The deadline for response is December 7, 2007. A one-month extension of time accompanies this response.

Please enter the following amendment:

01/03/2008 HMARZI1 00000015 132546 10675815 01 FC:1201 210.00 DA